

Applicant: Braud et al.
Application No.: 09/555,555

IN THE CLAIMS

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A method of testing a compound for biological activity, which method comprises:

- (i) providing cells expressing one of the CD94/NKG2 family of receptors at the cell surface;
- (ii) contacting the cells with HLA-E in the presence of the test compound; and
- (iii) determining whether the presence of the compound affects the binding of HLA-E to the cells.

21. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein the CD94/NKG2 receptors are inhibitory NK cell receptors—such as CD94/NKG2A receptors.

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein the CD94/NKG2A CD94/NKG2 receptors are stimulatory NK cell receptors—such as CD94/NKG2C receptors.

23. (Previously amended) Compounds identified by the method according to claim 20, as affecting the binding of HLA-E to CD94/NKG2 receptors.

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24 -29. (Cancelled)

30. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the inhibitory CD94/NKG2 receptors are CD94/NKG2A receptors.

31. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the stimulatory CD94/NKG2 receptors are CD94/NKG2C receptors.

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